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AN ESSAY ON THE EXPENDITURE DISTRIBUTION IN AMERICAN EAST ASIAN LIBRARIES

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1. Introduction

In his recent paper[1], Dr. Yuan Zhou, Curator of the East Asian Library at the University of Chicago, provides rich information and data about American East Asian Libraries. He also mentions that the desirable proportion of expenditures between printed collections and electronic resources in these libraries remains a problem. The problem addressed in this paper is the question “What is an appropriate proportion of the budget to spend on each type of resource?”

2. Methodology

2.1 Subjects

In considering the proportion of expenditure between printed collections and electronic resources, we have to consider existing collections and their expenditures. We choose as examples the top 10 American East Asian libraries, with total collections of over 400,000 volumes. They are Harvard-Yenching library[2], the East Asian Library at UC Berkeley[3], the University of Michigan Asia Library[4], the C.V. Starr East Asian Library at Columbia University[5], the East Asia Library at Yale University[6], the Princeton University East Asian Library[7], the East Asian Library at University of Chicago[8], Cornell’s Charles W. Wason East Asia Collection[9], UCLA’s Richard C. Rudolph East Asian Library[10], and the East Asian Library at Stanford University[11].

2.2 Data

Statistics from the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) provide data on collections in the top 10 American East Asian libraries presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Collections Statistics in Top 10 American East Asian Libraries (Volumes, June 30, 2004)

East Asian Library	Established Year	Chinese Collections	Japanese Collections	Korean Collection	Other Collections	Total Collections
Harvard-Yenching	1879	620412	283958	121202	152701	1178273
Berkeley	1896	423370	351067	66845	82619	923901
Michigan	1948	377977	283957	16649	75926	754509
Columbia	1905	361163	269589	60375	57897	749024
Yale	1878	434229	243537	10064	11060	698890
Princeton	1926	451825	173390	16393	46215	687823
Chicago	1936	389755	199062	44905	45308	679030
Cornell	1918	357074	136720	8332	42370	544496
UCLA	1948	261457	165055	40529	17442	484483
Stanford	1945	263842	175800	0	31389	471031

Data Source: CEAL Statistics 2003-2004. *Journal of East Asian Libraries*, 2005, No.135: 35-62.

Corrected by Dr. Zhou[1].

According to CEAL and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) statistics, the expenditures for the above East Asian libraries are as shown in Table 2.

Table 2 Expenditure Statistics of Top 10 American East Asian Libraries (US\$, 2004)

East Asian Library	Appropriations	Endowment	Grants	Program Support	Asian Total Acquisitions
Harvard-Yenching	68079	480000	434418	12000	994497
Berkeley	746997	187038	58386	0	992421
Michigan	737203	64558	20000	70200	891961
Columbia	497199	208552	29675	29000	764426
Yale	335000	360000	0	0	695000
Princeton	560452	0	21000	101000	682452
Chicago	199867.53	152659	128391	126420.8	607339
Cornell	364000	29000	0	54000	446000
UCLA	348864	0	98925	0	447789
Stanford	409000	0	0	11000	420000

Data Source: <http://wason.library.cornell.edu/CEAL/> ; <http://www.lib.ku.edu/ceal/viewform.asp>

The expenditures on electronic materials and their percentages are presented as Table 3.

Table 3 Expenditures in the 10 University Libraries (US\$, 2004)

East Asian Library	Total Electronic Materials	Total Library Materials	Total Elec. Materials as % of Total Lib. Materials	Asian Acquisitions as % of Total Lib. Materials
Harvard-Yenching	3055319	27884613	10.96	3.566472
Berkeley	U/A	16117813	U/A	6.157293
Michigan	5422903	18785711	28.87	4.748082
Columbia	4476907	17588988	25.45	4.346049
Yale	3879597	27485613	14.12	2.528596
Princeton	3040914	13762081	22.10	4.95893
Chicago	3860937	13462639	28.68	4.511292
Cornell	2839691	16441789	17.27	2.7126
UCLA	2719900	12744509	21.34	3.513584
Stanford	U/A	U/A	U/A	U/A
Average	3662021	18262540	21.10	4.12

Data Source: ARL statistics 2003-04 in <http://www.arl.org/stats/arlstat/>. U/A means Unavailable

The left three columns of data come from ARL statistics 2003-04. The Asian acquisitions as per cent of total library materials (right column) are obtained by dividing the data on Asian Total Acquisitions in Table 2 by the data on Total Library Materials in Table 3.

3. Results and Discussion

Based on the data in Table 1, we can calculate their percentages in Table 4.

Table 4 Language Percentages of Asian Collections in Top 10 American East Asian Libraries(2004)

East Asian Library	Chinese %	Japanese %	Korean %	Other %
Harvard-Yenching	52.65435	24.09951	10.28641	12.95973
Berkeley	45.82417	37.99834	7.235083	8.942408
Michigan	50.09576	37.63467	2.206601	10.06297
Columbia	48.21781	35.99204	8.060489	7.729659
Yale	62.13124	34.84626	1.439998	1.582509
Princeton	65.68914	25.20852	2.383317	6.719025
Chicago	57.39879	29.31564	6.61311	6.672459
Cornell	65.57881	25.10946	1.530222	7.781508
UCLA	53.96619	34.06827	8.365412	3.600126
Stanford	56.01372	37.32238	0	6.663893
Average	55.76	32.16	4.81	7.27

So, if we consider a typical East Asian library with budgeted expenditures of X US dollars every year, we can distribute the expenditures X into two parts (for printed collections and for electronic materials) according to averages 78.90% and 21.10%. Further, we can distribute to Chinese, Japanese and Korean materials 55.76%, 32.16% and 4.81% respectively. In Table 5, a set of virtual East Asian libraries are listed as examples.

Table 5 Suggested Solutions to the Expenditure Distribution in East Asian Libraries

Virtual East Asian Library	Total Expenditures	For Printed Materials	For Electronic Materials	For Chinese Materials	For Japanese Materials	For Korean Materials
Similar Harvard/Berkeley	1000000	789000	211000	557600	321600	48100
Similar Michigan	900000	710100	189900	501840	289440	43290
Similar Columbia	800000	631200	168800	446080	257280	38480
Similar Yale/Princeton	700000	552300	147700	390320	225120	33670
Similar Chicago	600000	473400	126600	334560	192960	28860
Similar Cornell/UCLA	500000	394500	105500	278800	160800	24050
Similar Stanford	400000	315600	84400	223040	128640	19240
A East Asian Library	300000	236700	63300	167280	96480	14430
Another East Asian Library	200000	157800	42200	111520	64320	9620

For Chinese, Japanese and Korean materials, we can still recommend 78.90% for printed collections and

21.10% for electronic materials.

For Chinese materials as an example, when we consider printed collections, we should pay more attention to Chinese classic books and contemporary research works. Some philosophical classics such as Confucian classics, Taoist classics and Buddhist classics, historical classics and literature and arts classics seem necessary. And for electronic materials, we may purchase important full text journal databases or online resources such as CNKI, Wangfang and Weipu, in which we can get most core Chinese journals.

4. Conclusion

Based on the data analysis of the top 10 American East Asian libraries, we discover that the per cent of expenditures for printed collections and electronic resources, averages 78.90% and 21.10% respectively. And the expenditures average 55.76% for Chinese, 32.16% for Japanese and 4.81% for Korean materials. These budgetary percentages can be recommended to other American East Asian libraries.

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